UN

UNITED NATIONS

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Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.16/1995/6
15 February 1995

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT
Second Session
Geneva, 15 May 1995
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

COORDINATION MECHANISMS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

Secretariat note

Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/71 which requests the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to consider, at its second session, the outcome of the coordination segment of the substantive session of the Council of 1994, the report of the Secretary-General on "Division of labour and coordination within the United Nations system in the field of science and technology" (E/1994/70) is being circulated to the Commission. The report has been prepared in response to the above-mentioned resolution and contains an analysis of action-oriented proposals to improve the coordination mechanisms of organs, programmes and specialized agencies which are involved in the science and technology activities of the United Nations system. The Council considered the report at its coordination segment in 1994 and adopted a set of "agreed conclusions on coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system related to the science and technology for development" (agreed conclusions/1994/1). The agreed conclusions address the policies and activities in the field of science and technology at the intergovernmental, inter-agency and national levels and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the agreed conclusions to the Economic and Social Council in 1995.

In addition, the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system were requested to provide specific information to update the above-mentioned report with respect to their activities in the field of science and technology for development, including cooperation in technology assessment and forecasting as well as endogenous capacity-building in science and technology. The information received up to the time of publication is included in the report on activities of the United Nations system in the field of science and technology (E/CN.16/1995/7).

GE.95-50489